REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-98 are pending in the present application. In the Office Action mailed October 7, 2005, the Examiner rejected claims 1-98 under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

In the above amendments, claims 1, 13, 25, 34, 43, 51, 52, 62, 72, 80, 86 and 92 have been amended to recite that "the data type indicates what type of data is included in the graphical code data." Support for this amendment may be found in Applicants' specification on page 13, lines 4-5.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested in view of the above amendments to the claims and the following remarks.

A.   Claims 1-98 Rejected Under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a)

The Examiner rejected claims 1-98 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(a) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,154,738 to Call (hereinafter, "Call"). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." MPEP § 2131 (citing Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987)). "The identical invention must be shown in as complete detail as is contained in the ... claim." Id. (citing Richardson v. Suzuki Motor Co., 9 USPQ2d 1913, 1920 (Fed. Cir. 1989)). In addition, "the reference must be enabling and describe the applicant's claimed invention sufficiently to have placed it in possession of a person of ordinary skill in the field of the invention." In re Paulsen, 31 USPQ2d 1671, 1673 (Fed. Cir. 1994).

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims at issue are patentably distinct from Call. Call does not disclose all of the limitations in these claims.

Claim 1 is directed to a system for providing data from a graphical code reading device to a software module. Claim 1 recites:

> a graphical code reading device that scans a graphical code and provides graphical code data; and
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> a computer in electronic communication with the graphical code reading device that receives the graphical code data from the graphical code reading

> device, the computer comprising:
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>> a processor;
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>> a memory in electronic communication with the processor;
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>> a communications port in electronic communication with the processor for communicating with the graphical code reading device;
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>> an association including a data type and a software module identifier; and
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>> a driver that receives the graphical code data and obtains the software module identifier through use of the data type and provides the graphical code data to the software module identified by the software module identifier.

Call relates generally to "methods and apparatus for transferring requests for specific information to preferred sources of that information on the Internet." Call, col. 1, lines 28-30. More specifically, Call discloses "transfer[ring] a request for information specified by an identifier, such as a product code, to a preferred source of that information, such as an Internet information resource devoted to the product specified by the product code which is created and maintained by the product's manufacturer." Id., col. 1, lines 54-59.

Call, however, does not disclose "an association including a data type and a software module identifier," as recited in claim 1. Call discloses "cross-references ... which relate their assigned universal product codes to associated Internet addresses." Call, col. 5, lines 32-35. In the Office Action, the Examiner appears to assert that one of the cross-references in Call is the "association" recited in claim 1, i.e., that one of the universal product codes in Call is the "data type" recited in claim 1 and that one of the Internet addresses in Call is the "software module identifier" recited in claim 1. However, a universal product code is not a "data type" as recited in claim 1. Claim 1 specifies that a "data type indicates what type of data is included in the graphical code data." In contrast, a universal product code simply "identif[ies] specific products." Call, col. 1, line 63. One of ordinary skill in the art would not interpret the "data type" that is recited in claim 1 to encompass a universal product code.

Call also does not disclose a "driver" as recited in claim 1. In the Office Action, the Examiner appears to assert that the product code translator 101 disclosed in Call is the "driver" that

is recited in claim 1. Applicants respectfully disagree. The product code translator 101 does not satisfy all of the limitations of the "driver" recited in claim 1.

For example, the product code translator 101 does not "obtain[] the software module identifier through use of the data type," as required by claim 1. Call states that the product code translator 101 includes a query handler 204 that "accepts queries via the Internet 205, each query including all or part of one or more universal product codes, and returns the Internet addresses which can be used to obtain information about the products identified by those codes." Call, col. 5, lines 35-40. Thus, Call discloses obtaining Internet addresses through use of the universal product codes. However, as discussed above, a universal product code is not a "data type" within the meaning of claim 1. Thus, the query handler 204 in Call does not obtain the Internet address "through use of the data type," as required by claim 1.

In addition, the product code translator 101 does not "receive[] ... graphical code data ... and provide[] the graphical code data to the software module identified by the software module identifier." As indicated above, Call states that the product code translator 101 includes a query handler 204 that "accepts queries via the Internet 205, each query including all or part of one or more universal product codes." Call, col. 5, lines 35-36. In the Office Action, the Examiner appears to assert that the "queries" disclosed in Call are the "graphical code data" recited in claim 1. However, even if this assertion is correct, the product code translator 101 does not "provide[] the [queries] to the software module identified by the software module identifier," as required by claim 1. Instead, in response to receiving a query that includes a universal product code, the product code translator 101 identifies an Internet address that corresponds to the universal product code and sends the Internet address back to the computer that sent the query. See id., col. 5, lines 35-40; col. 8, lines 40-49. The product code translator 101 processes and responds to the queries that it receives; it does not provide these queries to any other software module. If the Examiner maintains the rejection, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner specifically point out which components in Call are the "software module" and the "software module identifier" recited in claim 1.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1 is patentably distinct from Call. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Claims 2-12 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2-12 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 1.

With respect to claim 13, Call does not disclose "an association including a data type and a software module identifier." Call also does not disclose "a driver that … obtains the software module identifier through use of the data type," as recited in claim 13. Call also does not disclose "a driver that … provides the graphical code data to the software module identified by the software module identifier," as recited in claim 13. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 13 be withdrawn.

Claims 14-24 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 13. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 14-24 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 13.

With respect to claim 25, Call does not disclose "obtaining a software module identifier through use of the data type." Call also does not disclose "launching a software module identified by the software module identifier if the software module is not running," as recited in claim 25. Call also does not disclose "providing the graphical code data to the software module," as recited in claim 25. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 25 be withdrawn.

Claims 26-33 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 25. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 26-33 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 25.

With respect to claim 34, Call does not disclose "determining a data type of the graphical code data." Call also does not disclose "obtaining a software module identifier through use of the data type," as recited in claim 34. Call also does not disclose "launching a software module identified by the software module identifier if the software module is not running," as recited in claim 34. Call also does not disclose "providing the graphical code data to the software module," as

recited in claim 34. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 34 be withdrawn.

Claims 35-42 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 34. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 35-42 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 34.

With respect to claim 43, Call does not disclose "determining a data type of the graphical code data." Call also does not disclose "accessing an association list comprising a data type list and a software module list," as recited in claim 43. Call also does not disclose "obtaining a software module identifier from the association list through use of the data type and the data type list," as recited in claim 43. Call also does not disclose "launching the software module identified by the software module identifier if the software module is not running," as recited in claim 43. Call also does not disclose "providing the graphical code data to a client module of the software module," as recited in claim 43. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 43 be withdrawn.

Claims 44-50 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 43. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 44-50 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 43.

With respect to claim 51, Call does not disclose "determining a data type of the graphical code data." Call also does not disclose "obtaining a first software module identifier from the association list through use of the data type," as recited in claim 51. Call also does not disclose "launching the first software module identified by the first software module identifier if the first software module is not running," as recited in claim 51. Call also does not disclose "providing the graphical code data to the client module of the first software module," as recited in claim 51. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 51 be withdrawn.

With respect to claim 52, Call does not disclose "an association including a data type and a software module identifier." Call also does not disclose "a driver that ... obtains the software module identifier through use of the data type," as recited in claim 52. Call also does not disclose "a

driver that ... provides the graphical code data to a browser extension module identified by the software module identifier," as recited in claim 52. Call also does not disclose that the "browser extension module provides the graphical code data to the web page," as recited in claim 52. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 52 be withdrawn.

Claims 53-61 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 52. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 53-61 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 52.

With respect to claim 62, Call does not disclose "an association including a data type and a software module identifier." Call also does not disclose "a driver that ... obtains the software module identifier through use of the data type," as recited in claim 62. Call also does not disclose "a driver that ... provides the graphical code data to a browser extension module identified by the software module identifier," as recited in claim 62. Call also does not disclose that "the browser extension module ... provide[s] the graphical code data to the web page," as recited in claim 62. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 62 be withdrawn.

Claims 63-71 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 62. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 63-71 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 62.

With respect to claim 72, Call does not disclose "determining a data type of the graphical code data." Call also does not disclose "obtaining a software module identifier through use of the data type and through use of an association list," as recited in claim 72. Call also does not disclose "launching a web browser identified by the software module identifier if the web browser is not running," as recited in claim 72. Call also does not disclose "providing the graphical code data to a web page opened by the web browser," as recited in claim 72. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 72 be withdrawn.

Claims 73-79 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 72. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 73-79 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 72.

With respect to claim 80, Call does not disclose "an association including a data type and a software module identifier." Call also does not disclose "a driver that ... obtains the software module identifier through use of the data type," as recited in claim 80. Call also does not disclose "a driver that ... provides the graphical code data to an extension module of the extensible application identified by the software module identifier," as recited in claim 80. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 80 be withdrawn.

Claims 81-85 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 80. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 81-85 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 80.

With respect to claim 86, Call does not disclose "an association including a data type and a software module identifier." Call also does not disclose "a driver that ... obtains the software module identifier through use of the data type," as recited in claim 86. Call also does not disclose "a driver that ... provides the graphical code data to an extension module identified by the software module identifier," as recited in claim 86. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 86 be withdrawn.

Claims 87-91 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 86. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 87-91 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 86.

With respect to claim 92, Call does not disclose "determining a data type of the graphical code data." Call also does not disclose "obtaining a software module identifier through use of the data type and through use of an association list," as recited in claim 92. Call also does not disclose "launching the extensible application identified by the software module identifier if the extensible application is not running," as recited in claim 92. Call also does not disclose "providing the graphical code data to an extension module of the extensible application," as recited in claim 92. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claim 92 be withdrawn.
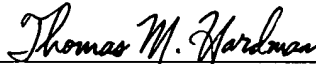
Claims 93-98 depend either directly or indirectly from claim 92. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 93-98 be withdrawn for at least the same reasons as those presented above in connection with claim 92.

B.   Conclusion

Applicants respectfully assert that all pending claims are patentably distinct from the cited references, and request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If there are any remaining issues preventing allowance of the pending claims that may be clarified by telephone, the Examiner is requested to call the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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